



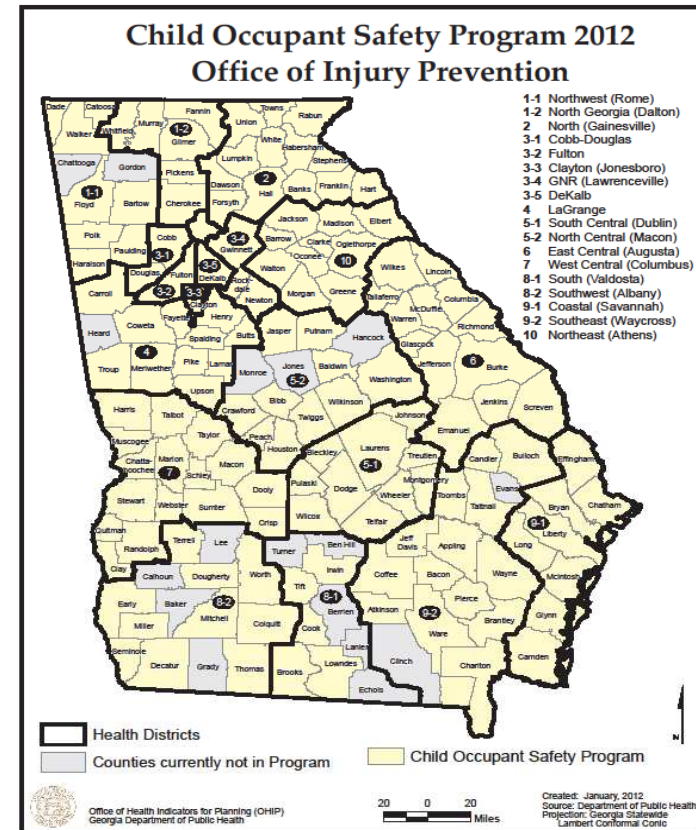
# Our Precious Cargo



Wende R. Parker, Program Consultant  
Georgia Department of Public Health  
Office of Injury Prevention

# Mini-Grant Recipients

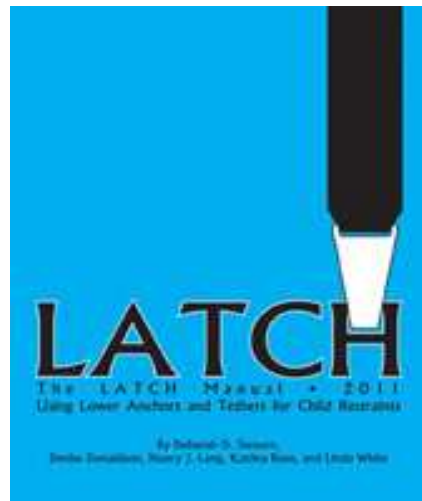
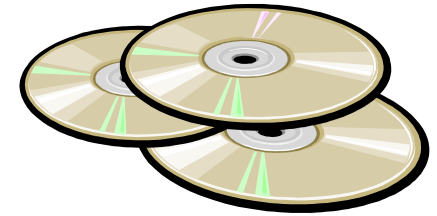
- 2003 – 47 Counties
- 2004 – 57 Counties
- 2005 – 68 Counties
- 2006 – 69 Counties
- 2007 – 86 Counties
- 2008 – 107 Counties
- 2009 – 116 Counties
- 2010 – 128 Counties
- 2011 – 138 Counties
- 2012 – 142 Counties



# Child Passenger Safety Mini-Grant Program

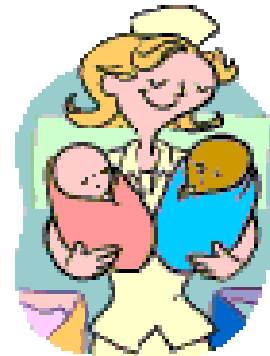
Provides local health agencies

- Technical assistance
- Educational materials
- Car seats and booster seats for financially eligible families



# “Keeping Kids Safe” Hospital Training Program

Establishes and improves child safety seat initiatives in Georgia’s hospitals





# Safe School Transportation Program

Addresses challenging issues including:

- Transporting pre-school age children
- Transporting children with special medical care needs



# Safe School Transportation Program

## Statewide resource for school bus programs

- Collaborates with local school systems, Head Start, child care providers, and Georgia Pupil Transportation
- Offers training for school personnel



# Special Medical Needs Program

- Provides technical assistance on special considerations for transporting children with special medical needs
- Developed an 8-hour training for certified CPS technicians, “Transporting Georgia’s Special Children Safely”





# Enforcement and Education is KEY

**YOU** can make the difference!

**“There is nothing we can do that has as much potential to save lives and prevent injuries for young children as actively and aggressively enforcing child passenger safety laws.”**

**Dr. Jeffrey W. Runge, M.D., former Administrator with NHTSA**





# Gross Misuse –

## Can lead to Immediate Death of a Child

- Not using a car seat
- Not buckling child in the car seat
- Not buckling car seat in vehicle
- Placing rear-facing seat in front of an active airbag
- Infant in a forward-facing seat

# Collaborative Partners

- Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute
- Georgia Safe Kids Coalitions
- Head Start/Georgia Pupil Transportation
- Board of Education
- Health Departments
- Bright from The Start
- Family Connection
- Children's Medical Services
- Babies Can't Wait
- Safe Kids of Georgia
- Division of Family and Children's Services
- Child Fatality Review
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Departments
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Hospitals
- Department of Early Care & Learning
- Governor's Office of Highway Safety
- Georgia State Patrol

# Education Alters Behavior

## Healthcare Provider Pocket Cards

	Under 1 yr	1-3 yrs	4-7 yrs	8-18 yrs
Less than 20 lbs	Rear-facing car seat	Rear-facing car seat		
21-40 lbs	Rear-facing car seat	Rear <b>or</b> Forward-facing car seat		
Over 40 lbs Under 4'9"		Forward-facing <b>or</b> Booster seat <b>plus</b> lap <b>and</b> shoulder belt		Booster seat <b>plus</b> lap <b>and</b> shoulder belt <b>or</b> seat belt
Over 4'9"				Seat belt


See description of restraint type on other side.

### Car Seat Recommendations

- Choose a car seat based on your child's size (height & weight).
- Read your car seat instructions for use and installation information.
- Read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt **or** LATCH system.
- Keep your child in the car seat as long as the child fits within the height **or** weight limits.
- Keep your child in the back seat until age 13.

For questions or more information email [injury@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:injury@dhr.state.ga.us) or call (404) 679-0500.

Developed by the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety. 2011.

DESCRIPTION OF RESTRAINT TYPES			
 <p>A <b>REAR-FACING CAR SEAT</b> is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.</p>	 <p>A <b>FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT</b> has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.</p>	 <p>A <b>BOOSTER SEAT</b> positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.</p>	 <p>A <b>SEAT BELT</b> should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.</p>
 <p><b>Birth - 12 months</b> Child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat, in the back seat.</p>	 <p><b>*Age 1 - 3 years</b> Rear-facing in back seat, as long as possible, within the height or weight limit allowed by car seat manufacturer. Then forward-facing car seat in back seat.</p>	 <p><b>Age 4 - 7 years</b> Forward-facing car seat used within the height or weight limit allowed by the car seat manufacturer. Then a booster seat using lap and shoulder seat belt in the back seat.</p>	 <p><b>Age 8 - 12 years</b> Booster seat until seat belt fits properly with lap belt snug across the upper thighs, not the stomach and shoulder belt snug across the chest, not across the neck or face. Keep children in the back seat until age 13.</p>

\*American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends a rear-facing car seat until 2 years of age or until they reach the highest height or weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

# Education Alters Behavior

## Law Enforcement Pocket Cards

**Georgia Child Passenger Safety Law (40-8-76)**

	Under 1 yr	1-3 yrs	4-7 yrs	8-18 yrs
Less than 20 lbs	Rear-facing car seat	Rear-facing car seat		
21-40 lbs	Rear-facing car seat	Rear <b>or</b> Forward-facing car seat		
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Over 4'9"			Seat belt	

See description of restraint type on other side.


**Look for GROSS MISUSE or NON-USE**

Non-use of car seats is the worst type of misuse. Gross misuse may include:


- No seat belt or LATCH attachments anchoring the car seat.
- No harness straps securing the child in the car seat.
- A rear-facing child in the front seat with an active air bag.
- An infant or toddler less than 1 year-old facing forward.

For questions or more information email [injury@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:injury@dhr.state.ga.us) or call (404) 679-0500.

Developed by the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety, 2011.




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\*American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends a rear-facing car seat until 2 years of age or until they reach the highest height or weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer.



# Child Occupant Safety Law

As of July 1, 2011

**Requires children under age 8 and under 4'9" (57")  
to ride in the rear seat (some exceptions apply)**

- **Under 8 years and under 4'9" (57") must be in an approved car seat or booster seat (CRS) while riding in cars, vans, SUVs and pickups**
- **CRS must meet all U.S. Federal Safety Standards**
- **CRS must be installed and used according to manufacturer's instructions**



**Best Practice:** Children in back until age 13.

# Car Seats Do Save Lives

## Buckle Up for Safety

Automobile Crashes  
= #1 Killer of Children  
Crashes can happen  
at any time



# Car Seat Recommendations for Children



# At-Risk Infants

- Infants born at less than 37 weeks, low birth weight infants (under 2500 grams at birth regardless of gestational age), and infants with certain cardiac and respiratory problems are at risk for apnea, bradycardia, & desaturations when positioned semi-upright
- The AAP recommends these infants have special monitoring while positioned in their car seats to see that the semi-upright position does not cause problems. Can they maintain a sitting position? Is their respiratory status compromised?
- AAP recommends that the testing be done for a minimal of 90-120 minutes or duration travel.



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# Safe Transportation of Preterm and Low birth Weight Infants at Hospital Discharge



# Traveling With Medical Equipment



- In a vehicle crash small objects become big missiles, making impact forces of 20-30 times their weight
- If a child must travel in a vehicle with medical equipment such as apnea monitors or oxygen, remind parents to secure all items
- Equipment can be secured with unoccupied seat belts or placed on the floor of the vehicle wedged with pillows, foam, or blankets





# Step 1: Rear Facing



## American Academy of Pediatrics Recommendations

*“Children should **face the rear** of the vehicle until:  
**2 years of age.**”*

*GA law requires “Children to **face the rear** of the vehicle until:  
**at least 1 Year AND at least 20 pounds**”*

*Children should remain rear facing as long as possible.*

Minimum and Maximum seat weights vary.

Always read the manufacturer's instructions.

# Seats With Weight Limits Beginning At Birth





# Seats With Weight Limits Beginning at 4 Pounds





# Convertible Seat - Rear Facing



No longer  
manufactured

## American Academy of Pediatrics Recommendations

“Children should **face the rear** of the vehicle until **2 years of age**”

Keep child rear-facing until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer.

# Convertible Seats RF to 33 - 35 Pounds



**Evenflo Titan**  
RF 5-35 & FF 20-50 lbs.  
Price - \$48.50



**Britax Marathon 70**  
RF 5-40 & FF 20/1y-70 lbs.  
Price - \$275



**Britax Boulevard**  
RF 5-40 & FF 20/1y-70 lbs.  
Price - \$299



# Chest Clip and Harness Straps



CORRECT



INCORRECT



SNUG



NOT SNUG





# Rear-Facing = Back Seat

- The back seat is the safest location





# Rear-Facing Convertible Seat

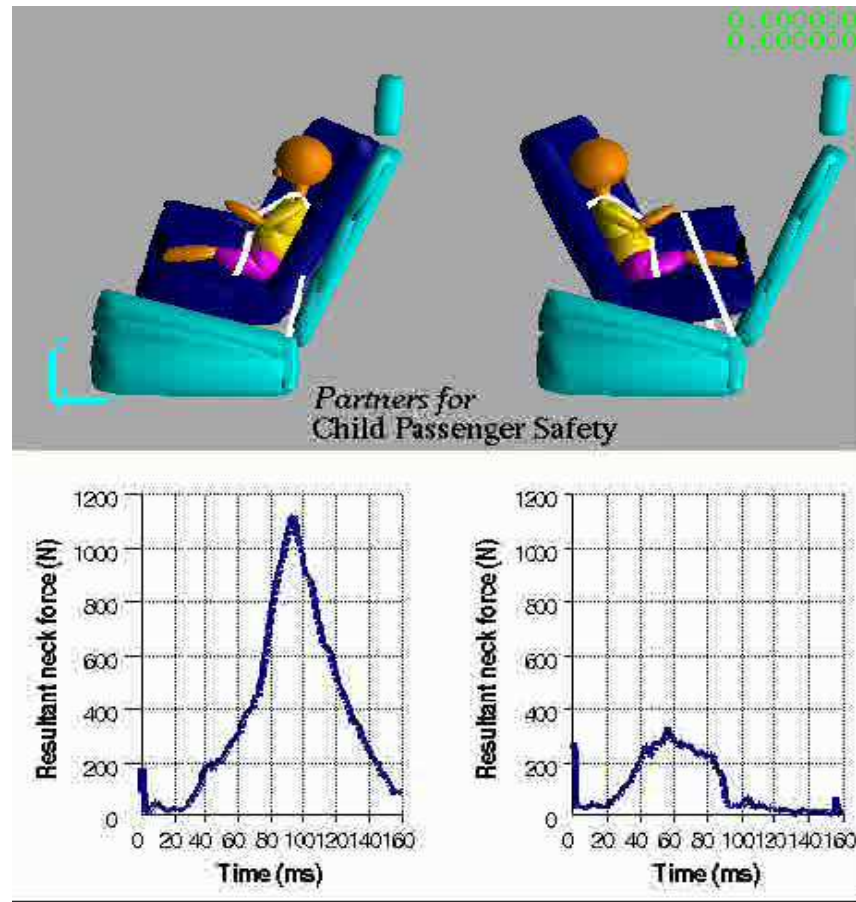


- Keep children rear-facing to maximum height or weight limit of seat
- Rear-facing is always the safest position.



# Rear-facing Vs. Forward-Facing

Click on Photo  
for video



Videos Courtesy of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



# Avoid Front Seat Airbags!

**A rear-facing car seat should never be installed in a front passenger seat that has an active airbag!**





# Avoid Front Seat Airbags!

**Click on Photo  
for video**



Source: Insurance Institute of Highway Safety



## Step 2: Forward-Facing Convertible Seat

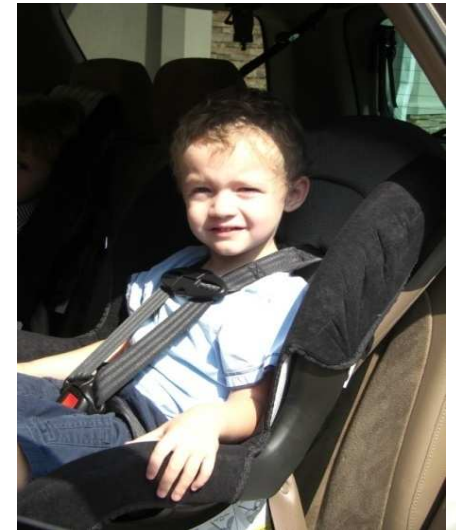
3 years old,  
32 lbs.



- The car seat **must** be in the upright position for forward-facing toddler use.
- Child **must** weigh 20-50 lbs. and be at least one year of age and 20 pounds.

# Forward Facing Convertible

- Seat in upright position
- Harness in reinforced slots at or just above shoulders
- Child's ears should be below the top of the seat
- Avoid bulky clothing
- Back and bottom flat into car seat
- Harness snug
- Chest clip at armpit level





# Putting a Child in a Forward Facing Only Seat



5 years old,  
38 lbs.



6 years old,  
46 lbs.



# Combination Seat

- **Forward-facing only**
- **Back and bottom flat into car seat**
- **Not too tall for car seat**
- **Avoid bulky clothing**
- **Correct harness slots**
- **Chest clip at armpit level**
- **Harness snug**
- **Crotch strap position - closes to child**



**Maestro**



**Express**

# FF Only Seats To 65 Pounds



**Graco Nautilus 3-in-1**  
**FF 20-65 lbs.**  
High back BPB 30-100 lbs.  
No Back 40-100 lbs.  
**Price - \$165**



**Safety 1<sup>st</sup> Apex 65**  
**FF- 22-65 lbs; BPB**  
**30-100 lbs.**  
**Price - \$125**

# FF Only Seat to Higher Weight Limits



**Britax Frontier 85**

**25/2y-85 lbs.**

**BPB 40-120**

**Price - \$299**

# Tether Anchor Weight Limits

- FMVSS 225
- No actual weight limit is defined
- Some manufacturers
  - Allow children up to 40 lbs.
  - Allow children up to 48 lbs.
  - Refer you to the car seat instructions
  - Some gave no guidance at all





# Step 3: Belt Positioning Booster Seat



# Choosing the Right Seat

## for an older child

### Forward Facing Only Seat

#### With Harness

= Children over 1 year old  
from 20 lbs – 50 lbs



#### Without Harness

= 40 lbs to 100 lbs



### Booster Seat

#### Used with Vehicle Seat Belt

= 40 lbs to 100 lbs



**Vehicle seat belts are designed for use by adults!**

Minimum and maximum seat height and weight limits vary. Always read the manufacturer's instructions.

# Booster Seat versus No Booster Seat



6yr\_booster\_laponly-mvfwr.d.mpg

# Why a Booster Seat?

- Protects children too large for a car seat with harness but too small for a seat belt alone
- Most children fit in a seat belt when they reach 4 feet 9 inches (57 inches)
- Remember, boosters are for “Big Kids”



Source: [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)



# Five Step Safety Belt Test

## The Five Step Test

- 

**1**  
Back against the vehicle seat
- 

**2**  
Knees bend at edge of seat
- 

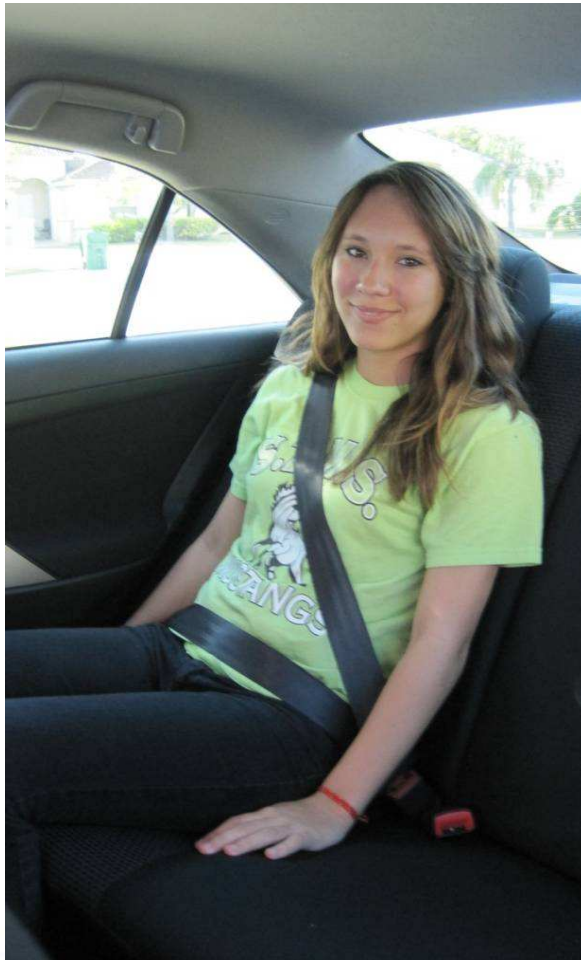
**3**  
Lap belt low on tops of thighs
- 

**4**  
Shoulder belt between shoulder and neck
- 

**5**  
Stay still entire trip

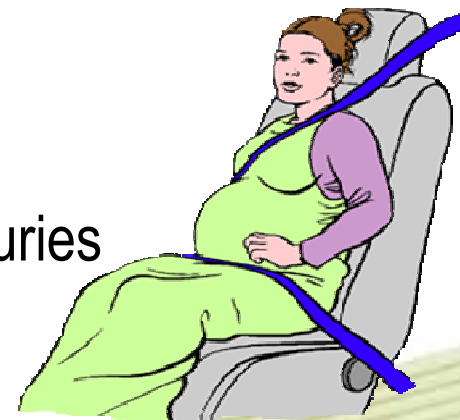
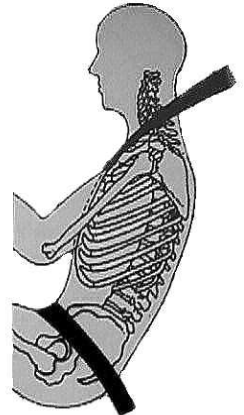
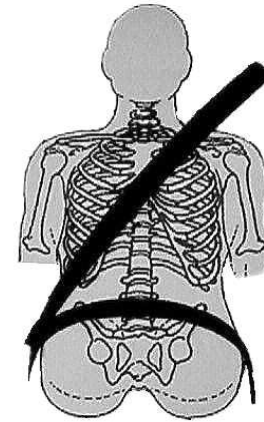


## Step 4: Vehicle Seat Belt



# How to Wear a Seat Belt Correctly

- The goal is to get **ALL** occupants to have upper body protection as follows:
  - Shoulder belt across mid-chest
  - Lap belt low and tight on upper thighs
  - Sit with back against seat, knees bend at edge of seat with hips back
- Lap belt only:
  - No upper body protection
  - Poor fit on child may cause internal injuries



# How to Check Car Seats for Recalls

## **THINGS YOU NEED TO LOOK FOR:**

- Car seat Manufacturer
- Date of Manufacture
- Car seat model number

## **RESOURCES FOR RECALLS:**

[www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov)

[www.consumerreports.org](http://www.consumerreports.org)

[www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov)

[www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org)





# Installation Resources at Your Fingertips



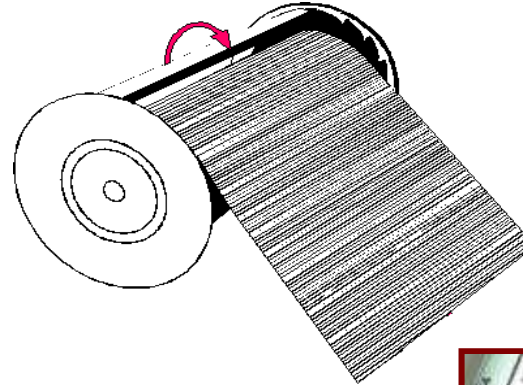
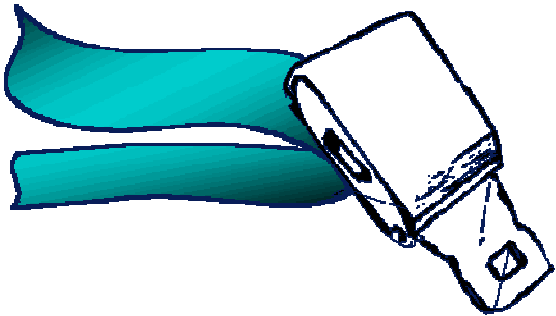
Instructions on  
seat belt



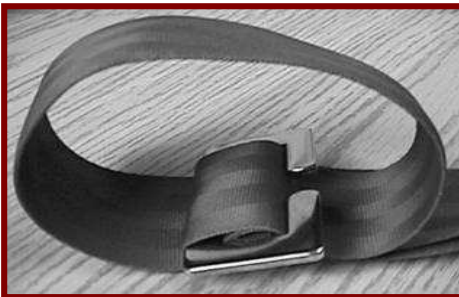
Car seat and  
vehicle  
owner's  
manuals



# Three Ways to Lock a Seat Belt



- Locking Latch plate
- Locking Retractor
- Locking Clip
  - Regular or Belt Shortening Clip



# Installing the Car Seat

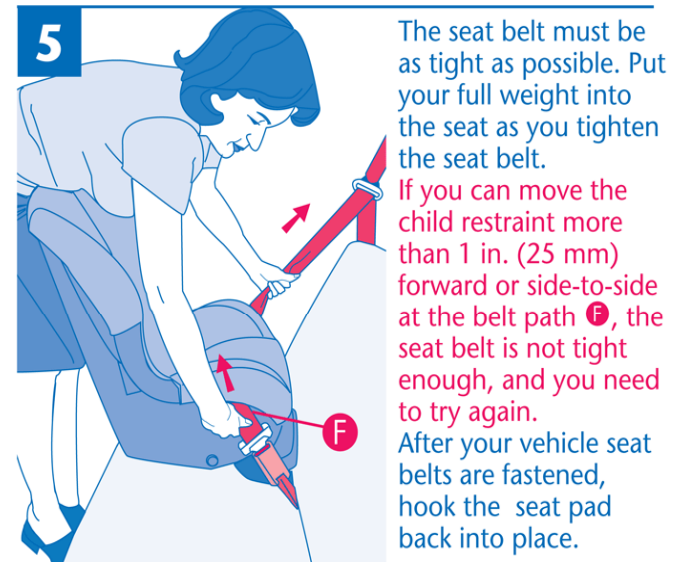
- Place car seat on vehicle seat in proper direction and at the correct upright or reclined position
- Place the seat belt or LATCH system through the belt path as directed by the manufacturer
- Place hand in the car seat to compress the vehicle seat cushion





# Installing the Car Seat

- Buckle, tighten, and lock the seat belt or lower anchorage system
- Make sure car seat does not move forward or side-to-side more than 1 inch



Source: Evenflo Titan Owner's Manual, p. 16 (8/10)



# Does the Vehicle Have LATCH?

- Check the vehicle owner's manual
- Locate the lower anchors in the vehicle seat
- Lower anchors can be visible or hidden
- Labels, tags, or buttons identify lower anchor locations



Photos from April 2007 National CPS Certification Training Program

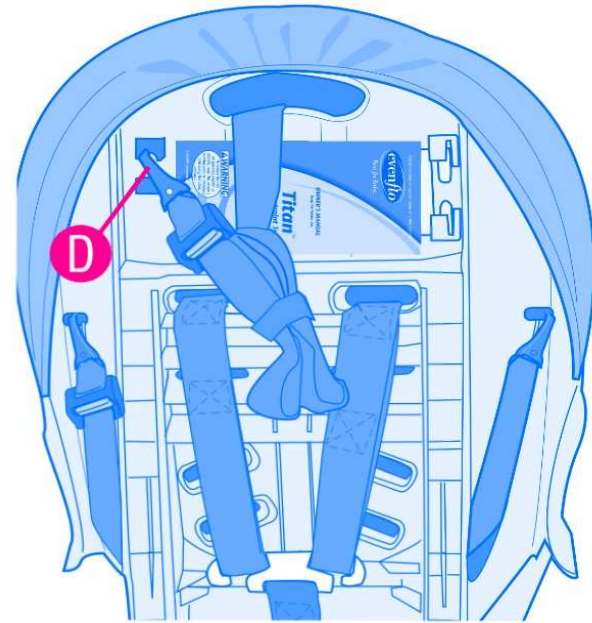
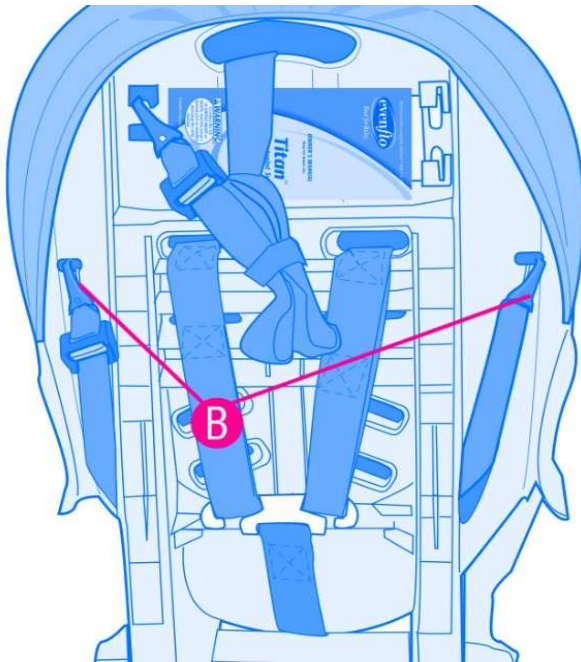
# Securing a Car Seat with Lower Anchors

- Can use seat belt or LATCH in newer cars **but not both**
- Refer to vehicle owner's manual for maximum LATCH anchor weight limits
- Store LATCH system when not in use



**Always read the instruction manuals for additional information!**

# Securing LATCH and Tether Strap

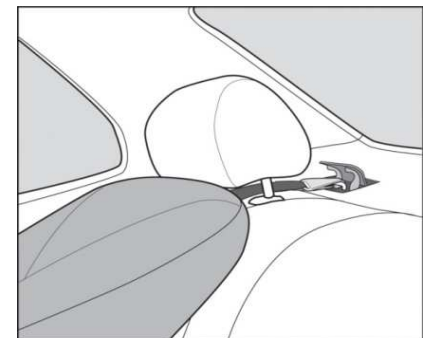
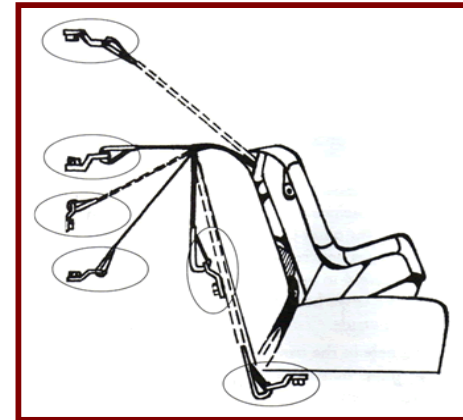


**When the LATCH system and Tether Strap are not in use, you MUST secure hooks ( as shown B & D).**

**Source: Evenflo Titan Owner's Manual, p. 34-35 (8/10)**

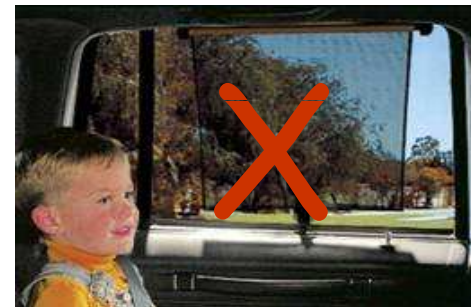
# Tethers

- The tether strap is **for forward-facing use ONLY**
- Secure the top of the seat with strap and hook to tether anchor in the vehicle
- Reduces the forward movement of a car seat
- Refer to vehicle owner's manual for maximum weight limit of tether
- Attach tether strap to storage clip on back of car seat when not being used





# Non-regulated Products – No Federal Standards



# Teaching Parents

- Safe Ride News *Child Safety Facts* car seat handouts (English and Spanish) are available for parents
- Bedside teaching should include hands-on demonstration. It must also include “return demonstration” by the parent
- Parents should be encouraged to watch the video *Don't Risk Your Child's Life* (English and Spanish) at the baby's bedside
- If you provide parents information on correct car seat use and positioning. Make sure parents understand they are responsible for correct installation of their car seat in their vehicle.


You Gotta Love Parents...♥




*Our Expertise is  
your Advantage*

# Helpful Program Resources

- SafetyBeltSafe USA Reproducible recall list  
[www.carseat.org](http://www.carseat.org) Color Pictorial Guide
- Safe Ride News CD with Manufacturer's Instructions and Summary Sheets
  - 2011 LATCH Manual
- SCI Corporation Vehicle seat simulator



**By learning about child  
passenger safety,  
you can help prevent  
injuries and save lives.**





# Consider this...

Transportation is part of everyday life and should be easy....so why is it not..?

- Many times child restraints, vehicles, safety belts and younger children do not fit together.
- It can take 20-30 minutes to properly install a child restraint in a vehicle.



# How do you save lives with child passenger safety?

- Provide accurate and up-to-date child passenger safety information including
  - The Georgia law
  - Appropriate types of child restraints based on a child's age, weight and physical tolerance
- Refer parents to an appropriate resource

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# Child Restraint Cleaning

- Always follow the child restraint instructions for cleaning.
- Use only mild soap and water and rinse with clean water.
- Never use any chemicals such as starch, bleach, or spray-on fabric care/wrinkle guard products.
- Never iron the harness.
- Never lubricate the buckle.

# Safe Practices

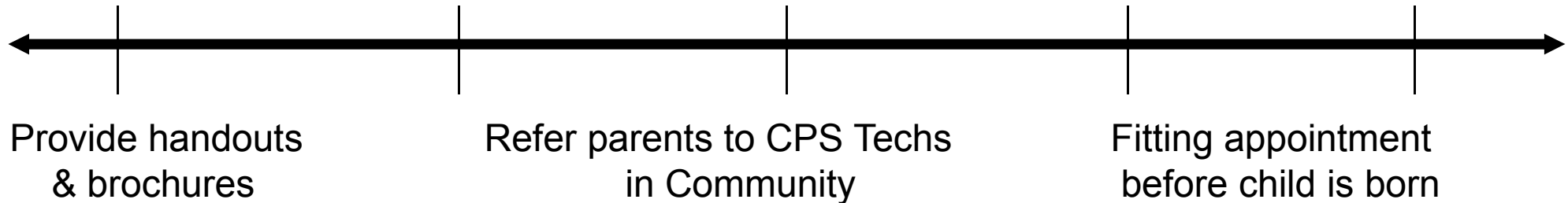
**DO NOT** use a child restraint that the child has outgrown

**DO NOT** use a child restraint beyond its usable life – approximately 6-7 years

**DO NOT** use a second-hand child restraint that is missing instructions and parts and/or has an unknown history



# CPS Continuum of Education



- Shows wide range of what can be done.
  - Doing it right does not increase the risk of liability.
  - Not doing it at all does not lower the risk of liability.
- Important to give parents information needed to transport children safely.
  - It is the **parent's** responsibility to install their child's restraint system.
  - **CPS Advocates** can provide general CPS information.
  - Only certified **CPS Technicians** should teach parents how to install the seat.

# How Much Do You Know About Child Passenger Safety?



What's Wrong With This Picture?

# What's Wrong With This Picture?

- Big snow suit not allowing harness to fit properly
- Harness straps loose and twisted
- Chest clip improperly threaded and low on child



# What's Wrong With This Picture?





# What's Wrong With This Picture?

- Rear-facing only infant seat installed forward-facing
- Handle left up
- Harness too loose and off the shoulders
- No chest clip



# What's Wrong With This Picture?



# What's Wrong With This Picture?

- Child too tall for car seat
- Harness through lower slots
- Harness too loose
- Chest clip threaded incorrectly





# What's Wrong With This Picture?





# What's Wrong With This Picture?

- Lap and shoulder belt not correctly placed on child
- Shoulder belt cuts under arm and up behind head
- Child should be in high back belt-positioning booster



# Working to Keep Georgia's Children Riding Safely

***Office of Injury Prevention,  
Maternal and Child Health Program,  
Department of Public Health***

**Contact us: 404-679-0500 - [injury@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:injury@dhr.state.ga.us)**

*Program funded by:*  
***Governor's Office of Highway Safety and  
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant***

